

“a vocal competition in the individual performance of arranged Negro spirituals, to provide African-American senior high school students a chance to earn tuition assistance grants for college matriculation”

PRIZE

Tuition assistance grants in the amount of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) and cash prizes in the amount of three hundred dollars (\$300) will be made available to adjudged first place winners in the separate categories of Female Vocalist and Male Vocalist. Tuition assistance grants in the amount of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) and cash prizes in the amount of two hundred dollars (\$200) will be made available to adjudged second place winners in the same categories. (Grant monies are supplied directly to accredited institutions of higher learning to which winning students gain admission and are enrolled within two years of date of graduation from high school). Cash prizes in the amount of one hundred dollars (\$100) will be awarded to all remaining entrants selected as finalists. Other entrants will be recognized for their participation.

ELIGIBILITY

Senior high students (grades 11-12) of Afro-ethnic heritage who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents currently attending an accredited school in any district of the state of Florida are eligible. Individuals who are currently contracted with musical or theatrical professional management are not eligible. Previous recipients of GRADY-RAYAM PRIZE tuition assistance grants are not eligible to return to competition.

REPERTOIRE

Each entrant will be required to perform two songs, one assigned and one selected. Entrants will be sent study copy of the assigned piece, which will be performed to the accompaniment of a single keyboard instrument (acoustic piano) using a staff accompanist. Entrants will be sent a list of songs recognized as Negro spirituals to assist them in choosing a second selection to be performed to the accompaniment of a single keyboard instrument (acoustic piano) using an accompanist they have secured. Entrants are required to provide an original score to this selection for use by the judges. Entrants will be required to perform from memory. A panel of three judges will sit at each site.

COMPETITION

A preliminary round of competitions will be held Saturday, 30th January 2010 in a number of Florida locations. Entrants attending school in these counties (*Baker, Bay, Bradford, Calhoun, Clay, Columbia, Duval, Escambia, Franklin, Gadsden, Gilchrist, Gulf, Hamilton, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Lafayette, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Nassau, Okaloosa, Putnam, Saint Johns, Santa Rosa, Suwannee, Taylor, Union, Wakulla, Walton, Washington*) will compete in the **Northern Regional** competition event. Entrants attending school in these counties (*Alachua, Brevard, Citrus, Dixie, Flagler, Hernando, Hillsborough, Lake, Levy, Marion, Orange, Osceola, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Seminole, Sumter, Volusia*) will compete in the **Central Regional** competition event. Entrants attending school in these counties (*Broward, Charlotte, Collier, DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, Indian River, Lee, Manatee, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Okeechobee, Palm Beach, Sarasota, St. Lucie*) will compete in the **Southern Regional** competition event. This round will be open to 100 singers maximum – 50 males and 50 females, with an equitable number of slots assigned to each regional site. Singers may be selected from each regional competition event to enter the final round. Entrants are required to submit a biographical statement on the day of preliminary competition. A final competition event will be held Saturday, 13th February 2010 in Lakeland. Decisions of the judges are final.

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

Competitors will be evaluated in three areas of performance by a panel of judges each of whom will separately award numerical scores using an established point system.

1. Points will be awarded for Technique based upon tone quality, intonation, and vocal production.
2. Points will be awarded for Musicianship/Artistry based upon inflection, diction, authenticity, rhythmic energy, and memorization.
3. Points will be awarded for Stage Presence based upon demeanor, posture, and sincerity of delivery.

In the first round each vocalist will perform the required piece, which the judges will separately evaluate by points. In the second round each vocalist will perform a selected piece, which will in turn be evaluated by points.

APPLICATION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

NAME OF SCHOOL _____

SCHOOL DISTRICT (COUNTY) _____

GRADE LEVEL (Check One): 11th 12th

GENDER (Check One): FEMALE MALE

VOICE RANGE (Check One):

SOPRANO MEZZO ALTO

TENOR BARITONE BASS

TEACHER/VOCAL COACH _____

TEACHER/COACH TELEPHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

TEACHER/VOCAL COACH ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PAYMENT METHOD (Check One):

Check is enclosed

Money Order is enclosed

Credit Card has been called in

COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS APPLICATION (OR A PHOTOCOPY) BY 4th DECEMBER, 2009 ALONG WITH A CHECK OR MONEY ORDER IN THE AMOUNT OF TWENTY DOLLARS (\$20.00) PAYABLE TO "NS" SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION. PAYMENT CAN ALSO BE MADE BY CREDIT CARD. THE FEE IS NON-REFUNDABLE. APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED WITHOUT PAYMENT WILL NOT BE PROCESSED. At the start of the competition period each entrant will be sent a competition number, a day-of-competition schedule, detailed rules and judging criteria for competition, a Negro spiritual description sheet, a list of titles, music copy for the assigned competition piece, biographical statement questions, and detailed information on how to get to the competition site.

MAIL APPLICATIONS TO:

GRADY-RAYAM PRIZE Committee:

"NS" Scholarship Foundation

PO Box 547728

Orlando FL 32854-7728

Telephone: 407/841-NSSF (6773)